

**Assays For Evaluating
The Function Of RNA Helicases**

5 **Abstract of the Disclosure**

10 The present invention provides a method for detecting the
release of a single-stranded RNA from an RNA duplex which
comprises admixing an RNA helicase with the RNA duplex
under conditions permitting the RNA helicase to unwind
15 the RNA duplex and release single-stranded RNA, wherein
the RNA duplex comprises a first RNA having a first label
attached thereto and a second RNA, such first label being
capable of producing a luminescent energy pattern when
the first RNA is present in the RNA duplex which differs
20 from the luminescent energy pattern produced when the
first RNA is not present in the RNA duplex, subjecting
the admixture to conditions which permit (i) the RNA
helicase to unwind the RNA duplex and release single-
stranded RNA, and (ii) the first label to produce
luminescent energy, and detecting a change in the
luminescent energy pattern produced by the first label so
as to thereby detect release of single-stranded RNA from
the RNA duplex.